# APPENDIX

## TITLE 25—INDIANS

### Chapter I—Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior

#### SUBCHAPTER W—MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

#### PART 256—OFF-RESERVATION TREATY FISHING

On page 8969 of the FEDERAL REGISTER of July 16, 1965, there was published a notice of intent to add a new Part 255 to Chapter I, Title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, and the text of the proposed regulations. The purpose of the new part was to provide a framework within which the exercise of off-reservation fishing rights secured to certain Indian tribes under treaties with the United States might be subjected to Federal regulation and control when required for conservation of the fishery resources for the benefit of the Indians and others having interests therein.

Interested persons were given an opportunity to submit data, views, or suggestions pertaining thereto within 30 days from the date of publication of the notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Numerous comments were received from several State Governors, State agencies, tribes, and others. These have all been considered and it has been determined that the proposed regulations should be issued in a modified form. The principal changes, other than editorial, are as follows:

The regulations have been assigned Part 256 since Part 255 has been assigned to a different subject.

Section 256.1 has been revised to more precisely and succinctly state the purposes of the regulations. The definition section has been omitted as unnecessary in the light of other changes adopted.

The section dealing with issuance of area regulations (§ 256.2) has been revised. Such regulations may be issued by the Secretary for those areas which he believes require them to assure adequate conservation and wise utilization of the fishery resources upon request of an Indian tribe, request of a State Governor, or his own motion. The Secretary may incorporate state laws or approved tribal regulations if he finds these to be consistent with the treaty and with conservation requirements.

Provisions expressly calling for recommendations to the Secretary by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife have been deleted because they concerned matters of internal administration not appropriate for treatment by regulations. It is contemplated that, except in emergency situations, interested parties will be afforded an opportunity to submit comments and information in connection with the rule-making process and that any hearings or actions by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife will be as agents of the Secretary in preparing a record upon which he can act. Provision has been made for the immediate promulgation of regulations if emergency conditions require. Parties will then be afforded an opportunity to submit views in support of requests for modification of such emergency regulations.

The area regulations may include requirements for reporting catch statistics which are deemed necessary for management purposes by State agencies as well as those needed by the Secretary.

Provisions applicable to identification cards (§ 256.3) have been revised to provide that these will be identification cards rather than fishing permits. They will be issued as prima facie evidence of the holder's entitlement to exercise a treaty-secured fishing right. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs may cause a government card to be issued or he may authorize use of tribally issued cards. The latter must be countersigned by a Bureau of Indian Affairs official. Copies of card forms and lists of issuing or countersigning officers must be furnished to State agencies. The deadline for requiring an approved tribal roll is advanced to January 1, 1970.

The requirement of identification of fishing gear (§ 256.4) is not limited to gear which is not in the Indian's immediate personal possession. The presumption that unmarked gear is not being used in the exercise of a treaty right applies only in the absence of proof to the contrary.

The enforcement provision (§ 256.6) is changed to provide for enforcement by tribal courts, Courts of Indian Offenses established under Part 11 of CFR Title 25 or special Courts of Indian Fishing Offenses to be established in accordance with said Part 11.

Except for § 256.3(g) and § 256.5, Part 256 shall become effective 30 days after its publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Section 256.3(g) and § 256.5 shall become effective 60 days after such publication.

STEWART L. UDALL,
*Secretary of the Interior.*

JULY 10, 1967.

281-519—67——2

Part 256 is adopted to read as follows:

Sec.

256.1 Purpose.
256.2 Area regulations.
256.3 Identification cards.
256.4 Identification of fishing equipment.
256.5 Use of unauthorized helpers or agents.
256.6 Enforcement and penalties.
256.7 Savings provisions.

AUTHORITY: The provisions of this Part 256 issued under 25 U.S.C. 2 and 9; 5 U.S.C. 301.

## § 256.1 Purpose.

(a) The purposes of these regulations (Part 256) are:

(1) To assist in protecting the off-reservation nonexclusive fishing rights which are secured to certain Indian tribes by their treaties with the United States;

(2) To promote the proper management, conservation and protection of fisheries resources which are subject to such treaties of the United States;

(3) To provide for determination of restrictions on the manner of exercising nonexclusive fishing privileges under rights secured to Indian tribes by such treaties of the United States necessary for conservation of the fisheries resources;

(4) To assist in the orderly administration of Indian Affairs;

(5) To encourage consultation and cooperation between the states and Indian tribes in the management and improvement of fisheries resources affected by such treaties;

(6) To assist the states in enforcing their laws and regulations for the management and conservation of fisheries resources in a manner compatible with the treaties of the United States which are applicable to such resources.

(b) The conservation regulations of this Part 256 are found to be necessary to assure that the nonexclusive rights secured to certain Indian tribes by treaties of the United States to fish at usual and accustomed places outside the boundaries of an Indian reservation shall be protected and preserved for the benefit of present and future members of such tribes in a manner consistent with the nonexclusive character of such rights. Any exercise of an Indian off-reservation treaty fishing right shall be in accordance with this Part 256 and any applicable area regulations issued hereunder.

**§ 256.2 Area regulations.**

(a) The Secretary of the Interior may upon request of an Indian tribe, request of a State Governor, or upon his own motion, and upon finding that Federal regulation of Indian fishing in any waters in which Indians have a treaty-secured nonexclusive fishing right is necessary to assure the conservation and wise utilization of the fishery resources for the present and future use and enjoyment of the Indians and other persons entitled thereto, promulgate regulations to govern the exercise of such treaty-secured fishing right in such waters for the purpose of preventing, in conjunction with appropriate State conservation laws and regulations governing fishing by persons not fishing under treaty rights, the deterioration of the fishery resources.

(b) In formulating such regulations the Secretary of the Interior may incorporate such State laws or regulations, or such tribal regulations as have been approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as he finds to be consistent with the Indians' rights under the Treaty and the conservation of the fishery resources.

(c) Before promulgating such regulations the Secretary of the Interior will seek the views of the affected Indian tribes, of the fish or game management agency or agencies of any affected State, and of other interested persons. Except in emergencies where the Secretary finds that the exigencies require the promulgation of regulations to be effective immediately, a notice of proposed rule making will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553 to afford an opportunity to submit comments and information, at such times and in such manner as may be specified in the notice. In the event of the emergency promulgation of regulations, interested persons will be afforded, as soon as possible, an opportunity to request amendment or revocation thereof.

(d) Any regulations issued pursuant to this section shall contain provisions for invoking emergency closures or restrictions or the relaxation thereof at the field level when necessary or appropriate to meet conditions not foreseeable at the time the regulations were issued.

(e) Regulations issued pursuant to this § 256.2 may include such requirements for recording and reporting catch statistics as the appropriate state fish and game agencies or the Secretary of the Interior deem necessary for effective fishery management.

**§ 256.3 Identification cards.**

(a) The Commissioner of Indian Affairs shall arrange for the issuance of an appropriate identification card to any Indian entitled thereto as prima facie evidence that the authorized holder thereof is entitled to exercise the fishing rights secured by the treaty designated thereon. The Commissioner may cause a federal card to be issued for this purpose or may authorize the issuance of cards by

proper tribal authorities: *Provided,* That any such tribal cards shall be countersigned by an authorized officer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs certifying that the person named on the card is a member of the tribe issuing such card and that said tribe is recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as having fishing rights under the treaty specified on such card. Copies of the form of any identification card authorized pursuant to this section and a list of the authorized Bureau of Indian Affairs issuing or countersigning officials shall be furnished to the fisheries management and enforcement agencies of any State in which such fishing rights may be exercised.

(b) No such card shall be issued to any Indian who is not on the official membership roll of the tribe which has been approved by the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided,* That until January 1, 1970, a temporary card may be issued to any member of a tribe not having an approved current membership roll who submits evidence of his entitlement thereto satisfactory to the issuing officer and in the case of a tribally issued card, to the countersigning officer. Any Indian claiming to have been wrongfully denied a card may appeal the decision in accordance with Part 2 of this chapter.

(c) No person shall be issued an identification card on the basis of membership in more than one tribe at any one time.

(d) Each card shall state the name, address, tribal affiliation and enrollment number (if any) of the holder, identify the treaty under which the holder is entitled to fishing rights, contain such additional personal identification data as is required on fishing licenses issued under the law of the State or States within which it is used, and be signed by the issuing officer and by the holder.

(e) No charge or fee of any kind shall be imposed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the issuance of an identification card hereunder: *Provided,* That this shall not prevent any Indian tribe from imposing any fee or tax which it may otherwise be authorized to impose upon the exercise of any tribal fishing right.

(f) All cards issued by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs pursuant to this Part 256 shall be and remain the property of the United States and may be retaken by any Federal, State, or tribal enforcement officer from any unauthorized holder. Any card so retaken shall be immediately forwarded to the officer who issued it.

(g) The failure of any person who claims to be entitled to the benefits of a treaty fishing right to have such a card in his immediate personal possession while fishing or engaging in other activity in the claimed exercise of such right to display it upon request to any Federal, State, or tribal enforcement officer shall be prima facie evidence that the person is not entitled to exercise an Indian fishing right under a treaty of the United States.

(h) No person shall allow any use of his identification card by any other person.

**§ 256.4 Identification of fishing equipment.**

All fishing gear or other equipment used in the exercise of any off-reservation treaty fishing right shall be marked in such manner as shall be prescribed in regulations issued pursuant to § 256.2 hereof to disclose the identity of its owner or user. In the absence of proof to the contrary, any fishing gear which is not so marked or labeled shall be presumed not to be used in the exercise of an off-reservation treaty fishing right and shall be subject to control or seizure under State law.

**§ 256.5 Use of unauthorized helpers or agents.**

No Indian shall, while exercising off-reservations treaty-secured fishing rights, permit any person 12 years of age or older other than the authorized holder of a currently valid identification card issued pursuant to this Part 256 to fish for him, assist him in fishing, or use any gear or fishing location identified as his gear or location pursuant to this Part 256.

**§ 256.6 Enforcement and penalties.**

(a) Any Indian tribe with a tribal court may confer jurisdiction upon such court to punish violations by its members of this Part 256 or of the area regulations issued pursuant thereto. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon each Court of Indian Offenses established pursuant to Part 11 of this chapter to punish such violations by members of tribes whose reservations are under the jurisdiction of such court. Courts of Indian Fishing Offenses may be created pursuant to Part 11 of this chapter to punish such violations by members of any tribe or group of tribes for which there is otherwise no Court of Indian Offenses or tribal court with jurisdiction to enforce this Part 256. The provisions of Part 11 of this chapter shall apply to any such court with respect to the exercise of its jurisdiction to enforce this Part 256. All jurisdiction conferred by this section shall apply without regard to any territorial limitations otherwise applicable to the jurisdiction of such court.

(b) Acceptance or use of an identification card issued pursuant to this Part 256 or use of any fishing gear marked or identified pursuant thereto shall constitute an acknowledgment that the fishing done under such card or with such gear is in the claimed exercise of a tribal fishing right and is subject to the jurisdiction of the tribal court, Court of Indian Offenses,

or Court of Indian Fishing Offenses. Except as may be otherwise provided by tribal regulations approved by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, any person claiming to be exercising such tribal right and fishing in violation of the regulations contained in or issued under this Part 256 may be punished by a fine of not to exceed $500, imprisonment of not to exceed 6 months, or both, and shall have his tribal fishing privileges suspended for not less than 5 days for any violation of this Part 256 or of any area regulation issued pursuant thereto. The court shall impound the fishing rights identification card of any person for the period which the fishing privileges are suspended.

**§ 256.7 Savings provisions.**

Nothing in this Part 256 shall be deemed to:

(a) Prohibit or restrict any persons from engaging in any fishing activity in any manner which is permitted under state law;

(b) Deprive any Indian tribe, band, or group of any right which may be secured it by any treaty or other law of the United States;

(c) Permit any Indian to exercise any tribal fishing right in any manner prohibited by any ordinance or regulation of his tribe;

(d) Enlarge the right, privilege, or immunity of any person to engage in any fishing activity beyond that granted or reserved by treaty with the United States;

(e) Exempt any person or any fishing gear, equipment, boat, vehicle, fish or fish products, or other property from the requirements of any law or regulation pertaining to safety, obstruction of navigable waters, national defense, security of public property, pollution, health and sanitation, or registration of boats or vehicles;

(f) Abrogate or modify the effect of any agreement affecting fishing practices entered into between any Indian tribe and the United States or any State or agency of either.

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